

Florida Health Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, & community efforts.

> Rick Scott Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS Surgeon General & Secretary

Florida Department of Health Lee County

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Florida Department of Health in Lee County 2015:015

REWARD OFFERED FOR SPRING BREAK VACCINE UPDATES

Lee County, FL— Want to give your child a head start for the 2015-2016 school year? You can do so by updating your child's required immunizations during Spring Break next week!

Students and parents can take home a cool wrist band or 5-2-1-0 refrigerator magnet by bringing youth, who expect to enter 7th grade in the fall, to the Florida Department of Health in Lee County for their required immunizations during spring break, March 30-April 3, 2015.

"We want to honor the youth or parent who chooses to avoid the back to school immunizations rush," said Kim Wester, Immunizations manager for DOH-Lee. "Parents can take advantage of this time when they don't have to work around school and after-school activity schedules to get their child's vaccines up to date."

"When students arrive on the first day of 7th grade without the proper immunizations, we have no choice but to send them home," said Pete Bohatch, Student Services director for Lee County Schools. "We'd like the first day of 7th grade to be a great day for every student – taking care of immunizations early ensures this."

To enter 7th grade, students must have a Tdap booster and parents may add the recommended Gardasil HPV vaccine to prevent cancer, a vaccine to prevent meningococcal disease and a vaccine to prevent Hepatitis A.

Public schools will be sending reminders to 6th grade parents through May 6 in a variety of ways.

All vaccines for children 18 years old and younger are free at DOH-Lee, and are administered without appointments. The clinic is located at 3920 Michigan Avenue in Fort Myers. It is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Friday from 1-3:30 p.m.

The Department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Twitter at <u>@HealthyFla</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>. For more information go to http://www.lee.floridahealth.gov/ or call (239) 332-9501.

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Please Note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials regarding state business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your e-mail communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.